Former Heber Mayor, 58, Dies in Hospital

Special to The Tribune

HEBER CITY — Maron Rich Hiatt, 58, former mayor of Heber City, died Saturday at a Salt Lake hospital of complications from injuries suffered in a boating accident June 8.

Mr. Hiatt

Mr. Hiatt was mayor of Heber City from 1948-49. Previous to that he was a city councilman. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Wasatch Chamber of Commerce, and a former member of the Heber City Junior Chamber of Commerce.

He served eight years on the Board of Directors and the Utah Pharmaceutical Association. He was a past president of the Heber Valley Rotary Club and a past member of the Heber Lions Club.

Mr. Hiatt was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served a mission for the Church to the North Central States, 1931-33. He served three years in the bishopric of both the Heber 1st and Heber 6th LDS Wards. He served 14 years on the Wasatch LDS Stake High Council.

He owned and operated Palace Drug and Valley Drug in Heber City. He was a graduate of the University of Idaho School of Pharmacy, and had versity and the University of Utah.

Mr. Hiatt was born Sept. 7, 1913, Vernal, to Jesse Levi and Essie Jane Rich Hiatt. He married Cleo Zenger Dec. 20, 1934, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

He is survived by his widow; sons, daughter, Melvin Ronnie, Richard Z., both Heber City; Mrs. Nile (Joyce) Carlson, Layton; five grandchildren; mother, Mrs. Essie Hiatt Glines, Mesa, Ariz.; brothers, sister, Kent R., Heber City; Jay L., Milford, Beaver County; Mrs. Lawrence (Nila) Stephens, Modesto, Calif.

Funeral servicse will be held Monday, 2 p.m., in the Heber 6th LDS Ward Chapel. Friends may call at Olpin Mortuary, Heber City, Sunday, 7-9 p.m., and Monday prior to services. Burial will be in the Heber City Cemetery.

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MARON RICH HIATT

Maron Rich Hiatt, second child of Jesse Levi Hiatt and Essie Jane Rich, was born in Vernal, Utah, September 7, 1913. His parents lived in Roosevelt, Springville and Lehi before coming to Heber in 1917 to make their home. His father took over the Palace Drug, which he operated until his death in 1950. His son Maron and his brothers now operate the same store.

Maron attended the North School and graduated from Wasatch High School in 1931. He was active in athletics in high school, having played on the winning high school basketball and baseball teams. Maron also played and managed the town baseball and softball teams. He also represented the Church on many basketball and softball teams, and his team won the consolation championship of the all-Church tournament held at Salt Lake City.

Maron has been active in Church activities of the Mormon Church, holding many positions of responsibility. In the Mutual, in the Sunday School and Priesthood organizations he was active, and was in the bishopric of Heber First and Heber Sixth Wards, and at present is serving in the High Council of Wasatch Stake. He also served a mission in the North Central States during 1931 to 1933, returning home at 20 years of age.

After returning from his mission, Maron

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entered BYU and completed two quarters' work. He was a member of the Phi Delta Chi and earned a letter on the BYU freshman basketball team. He then transferred to the University of Idaho, Southern Branch, at Pocatello, in the school of pharmacy. Maron married Cleo Zenger of Midway in the LDS Temple in the winter of 1934 and together they went to school at Pocatello. Maron spent a summer at the University of Utah completing a course in organic chemistry, and then graduated with a B.S. degree in pharmacy in 1938 from Pocatello.

After graduation, Maron and Cleo made their home in Heber. They have two sons and a daughter: Melvin Ronald, Richard, and Joyce.

Maron has always been interested in the civic affairs of Wasatch County. He has held positions of responsibility in the Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Commerce. He served as mayor of Heber City two years, 1947-49. During his term of office many important contributions were made to the upbuilding of Heber City.

1. The city and county, in a cooperative agreement with the federal government, furnished the valley with an up-to-date airport. This has been a field of much activity and many planes have used this field for crop dusting, sightseeing, aviation and pleasure.

2. The Heber Community Building, a $40,000 structure, was built through the cooperation of many participating groups. Major portion of the costs were paid by Heber City, Wasatch County and veterans' groups. The lower floor houses the fire department, council rooms of Heber City and the offices of the Heber Light and Power. The upper floor, which has an outside entrance, houses a large combination assembly room and dance hall, kitchen lounge and lavatories. Second floor rooms are as a county and community memorial and are used by civic and scout groups, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

3. Heber City acquired water rights and ground in Snake Creek Canyon and built a municipal power plant. This has been an economical unit operated by one caretaker and has been a source of thousands of dollars in revenue for the Heber Light and Power Co., of which Heber is the major stockholder.

4. Started the hard surfacing and oiling of the cemetery north and east of Heber. By the follow-up and continued beautification, our cemetery ranks as one of the most beautiful in the state.

5. Cooperated with county and civic groups to foster a summer recreation program.

Harold Stevens, formerly a city councilman, was elected to serve as mayor beginning in 1938 and completed two terms, serving through 1941. City councilmen during the first term included Athel B. Fitzgerald, Owen F. Buell, Nephi Moulton, Andrew A. Lindsay and Douglas Giles. Officers of the city during Mayor Stevens' second term of 1940-41, were Nephi Moulton, Owen F. Buell, Charles C. Bronson and Douglas Giles, councilmen and Isabell A. Lewis, treasurer.

Mayor Stevens directed the installation of sewer lines in the north part of Heber, purchased an attractive two-acre addition to the cemetery, installed water lines at the cemetery, built a grandstand at the city park, constructed a baseball diamond, worked on main street improvements, and also purchased the balance of Broadhead Spring for culinary purposes.

In November, 1941, Ralph Giles won the mayorality election, and by the time he took office in 1942 the nation had been plunged into World War II. Materials became very scarce and manpower left at home was even more scarce.

Councilmen elected to serve during Mayor Giles' first term were Fred G. Carlile, Allen Curry, John A. Fortie, Walter Harrison and Joseph Hylton. Those serving during the second term of 1944-45 were Walter Harrison, Joseph Hylton and Allen Curry. Glen S. Hatch was city attorney and Venice H. Watson was treasurer.

Faced with wartime shortages, Mayor Giles and the council were able to do only limited public works projects. Most of Heber's roads were gravel coated, and the water system at the cemetery was enlarged. In addition, the city's culinary water system was improved and pressure boosting pumps were added. Also, a new water main was trenched and installed from Broadhead Spring to the Mill Street storage tank at a cost of $20,000.

Because only a few work projects could be carried out, Mayor Giles created a savings fund for the city. From power plant revenues the city purchased a $500 government savings bond each month for many months. From other city revenues Mayor Giles purchased 50 $1,000 government bonds. At the end of his second term Mayor Giles was able to turn over to his successor savings of more than $100,000 to be used on needed city projects when materials and labor became available.

Joseph Hylton became mayor in 1946, and had as city officers Allen Curry, Fred G. Carlile, Joseph Olpin, Harold H. Smith and Walter Harrison, councilmen; Venice H. Watson, treasurer; Everett Murdock and E. Warren Jones, city marshals.

During his administration, Mayor Hylton began plans for a new power plant in Snake Creek Canyon. Equipment for the plant was ordered and the construction work started while he was mayor. Plans were also approved for the city airport and the joint City-County Memorial Building. Zoning ordinances for the city were also effected by Mayor Hylton.

Maron R HIATT

Maron Rich Hiatt was Heber's next mayor, taking office in 1948. He successfully completed the city airport, the community Memorial Building and the new Snake Creek power plant.

Maron R. Hiatt

Councilmen serving with Mayor Hiatt were Fred Carlile, Sherman Giles, Don Hicken and Raymond Jiacoletti.

The community building, a $40,000 structure, houses the fire department on the lower floor, and included offices for the city government and the Heber Light and Power Company. The upper floor, which has a separate outside entrance, has a large assembly room with adjoining kitchen and lounge facilities. Second floor rooms are used by civic and community groups including the Boy Scouts of America, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mayor Hiatt also directed the hard surfacing of roads through the cemetery and added to the beautification of the cemetery site.

Heber's most popular mayor in terms of years of service is its present chief executive, Raymond N. Jiacoletti. Elected in 1949, he has served continuously since that time.

At the completion of Mayor Jiacoletti's first term it was decided by the city council that the offices of mayor and councilmen would be four year positions, and that the mayor and two of the councilmen would be elected in 1952 for four years, with the other three council posts to be expanded to four years in the 1954 elections.

City officials who have served with Mayor Jiacoletti have included the following:

1950-51: Fred Carlile, Sherman Giles, Merrill J. Murdock, Rex Whiting and LaMar Watkins, councilmen; Don Hicken, city recorder and Mary L. Duke, treasurer.

1952-53: Fred Carlile, Andrew Mohr, Merrill Murdock, LaMar Watkins and Sherman Giles, councilmen; Rulon Carlile, recorder.

1954-55: Ray Berg, Merrill Murdock, Sherman Giles, LaMar Watkins and Andrew Mohr, councilmen.

1956-57: Sherman Giles, Harry McMillan, Axel Holmes, Allen Curry and Ray Berg, councilmen. Merrill Murdock was later appointed to fill a vacancy when Mr. Curry moved to Provo.

1958-59: Ray Berg, Merrill Murdock, Tom Carlile, Harry McMillan and Axel Holmes, councilmen. Later Mr. Holmes moved to California and Walter Montgomery was appointed to fill the vacancy.

1960-61: Ray Berg, Guy McDonald, Merrill Murdock, Tom Carlile and ElRoy Van Wagoner, councilmen.

One of Mayor Jaicoletti's first projects as mayor was to institute a city-wide garbage collection service. He also reclassified the city business license structure, revised the city accounting and auditing system and brought in a group insurance and retirement program for city employees.

In 1951 he organized the first Heber City Police Department and